

# National Gallery of Art

## NEWS RELEASE

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Images Available

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### THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART SCULPTURE GARDEN ICE-SKATING RINK OPENS IN MID-NOVEMBER



Photograph Dean Beason © National Gallery of Art

Washington, D.C. - The National Gallery of Art Sculpture Garden ice-skating rink will be open November 15, 2001, through March 15, 2002, weather permitting. The ice rink, which has become a major Washington area recreational attraction, last year drew more than 48,000 skaters to its unique setting.

The rink's sleek, modern design creates open vistas throughout the garden and offers skaters the added experience of viewing wonderful works of contemporary sculpture. A state-of-the-art music system, with twenty-four speakers installed on light poles encircling the rink, provides uniform sound to skaters without distracting other visitors to the garden. Banners featuring Hendrick Avercamp's *A Scene on the Ice* (c. 1625), from the Gallery's collection, contribute to the festive atmosphere.

The Pavilion Café, with a panoramic view of the garden and ice rink, serves freshly made wraps, sandwiches, gourmet pizzas, and salads. Coffee, tea, hot chocolate, wine, and beer are also available. Hours during the skating season are Monday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. For reservations, call (202) 289-3360.

The hours for the ice-skating rink are Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 midnight; and Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Admission for a two-hour session (beginning on the hour) is \$5.50 for adults and \$4.50 for seniors (age 50 and over), children (age 12 and under), and students with ID. The skate rental fee is \$2.50. The locker rental fee is \$.50 (\$5.00 deposit required). Discounts on admission and fees are available for groups of ten or more. To arrange a group visit call (202) 289-3360 and for general information and opening announcements call (202) 737-4215. Season tickets are available for \$195.00.

Please note: During the evening ice-skating hours, when the National Gallery is closed to the public, the surrounding Sculpture Garden is also closed. Access to the rink and Pavilion Café during these times is restricted to the Constitution Avenue and Madison Drive entrances at Ninth Street.

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

The National Gallery of Art and its Sculpture Garden are open every day except December 25 and January 1. For general information call (202) 737-4215, the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) at (202) 842-6176, or visit the National Gallery of Art's Web site at [www.nga.gov](http://www.nga.gov). To receive the Gallery's free bimonthly Calendar of Events, call (202) 842-6662 or e-mail [calendar@nga.gov](mailto:calendar@nga.gov).

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